

CONFIDENTIAL.]

## REPORT

[No. 33 of 1878.]

OF

## NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 17th August 1878.

## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of copies issued.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<b>BENGALI.</b>				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Bhārat Shramajivī" ... ..	Barāhanagar ...	4,000	
2	"Rājshāhye Sambād" ... ..	Rājshāhye ...	.....	
3	"Grāmvartā Prakāshikā" ... ..	Comercolly ...	200	
4	"Arya Pratibhā" ... ..	Bhavanīpore ...	.....	
5	"Suhrid" ... ..	Calcutta ...	.....	
<i>Bi-monthly.</i>				
6	"Culna Prakāsh" ... ..	Culna ...	.....	
7	"Hindu Lalanā" ... ..	Nawābgunge, Barrack-pore.	.....	
8	"Sahayogī" ... ..	Bhavanīpore, Calcutta	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Banga Hitaishī" ... ..	Bhavanīpore, Calcutta	.....	
10	"Bhārat Mihir" ... ..	Mymensingh ...	658	8th August 1878.
11	"Bhārat Sanskarak" ... ..	Harinābhi ...	.....	9th ditto.
12	"Bengal Advertiser" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
13	"Bishwa Dūt" ... ..	Tāliganj, Calcutta	.....	14th ditto.
14	"Bardwan Prachārikā" ... ..	Bardwan ...	165	
15	"Bardwan Sanjivani" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	13th ditto.
16	"Dacca Prakāsh" ... ..	Dacca ...	400	11th ditto.
17	"Education Gazette" ... ..	Hooghly ...	1,168	9th ditto.
18	"Grāmvartā Prakāshikā" ... ..	Comercolly ...	200	14th ditto.
19	"Hindu Hitaishini" ... ..	Dacca ...	300	10th ditto.
20	"Hindu Ranjikā" ... ..	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	.....	7th ditto.
21	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi" ... ..	Berhampore ...	.....	9th ditto.
22	"Pratikār" ... ..	Ditto ...	235	9th ditto.
23	"Rangpore Dik Prakāsh" ... ..	Kākinīā, Rangpore	250	8th ditto.
24	"Sādhārani" ... ..	Chinsurah ...	516	11th ditto.
25	"Sahachara" ... ..	Calcutta ...	.....	12th ditto.
26	"Sambād Bhāskar" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
27	"Sulabha Samāchār" ... ..	Ditto ...	5,500	10th ditto.
28	"Soma Prakāsh" ... ..	Bhavanīpore ...	700	12th ditto.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
29	"Banga Mitra" ... ..	Calcutta ...	4,000	
<i>Daily.</i>				
30	"Sambād Prabhākar" ... ..	Calcutta ...	550	9th to 15th August 1878.
31	"Sambād Purnachandrodaya" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	10th to 16th ditto.
32	"Samāchār Chandrikā" ... ..	Ditto ...	625	12th and 13th August 1878.
33	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
34	"Arya Mihir" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
<b>ENGLISH AND BENGALI.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
35	"Howrah Hitakari" ... ..	Bethar, Howrah ...	300	
36	"Murshidābād Patrikā" ... ..	Berhampore ...	.....	9th August 1878.
37	"Barrisal Vartābāha" ... ..	Barrisal ...	300	
<b>ENGLISH AND URDU.</b>				
38	"Urdu Guide" ... ..	Calcutta ...	400	10th ditto.
<b>URDU.</b>				
<i>Bi-monthly.</i>				
39	"Akhhār-ul-Akhiār" ... ..	Mazufferpore ...	.....	
<b>HINDI.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
40	"Behār Bandhu" ... ..	Bankipore, Patna ...	509	14th ditto.
41	"Bhārat Mitra" ... ..	Calcutta ...	.....	13th ditto.
<b>PERSIAN.</b>				
42	"Jām-Jahān-numā" ... ..	Ditto ...	250	9th ditto.



## POLITICAL.

HINDU HITAIISHINI,  
August 10th, 1878.

1. ON mature reflection, observes the *Hindu Hitaishini*, it will be seen that Lord Beaconsfield has enhanced the honor and dignity of England by the recent Congress. The Berlin Congress.

Peace-loving England was exposed to the pride and insolence of Russia and other strong Powers, till her honour was vindicated by her Prime Minister. Turkey, too, has benefited, in that she has been freed from the grasp of Russia. Owing to the influence of England she retains a good portion of her territory. If the war with which Russia threatened England had occurred, she would have seen her recent victorious armies laid low in the dust. Russia, too, has gained much; for she has saved herself from the perplexities of another war. Turkey, in ceding Cyprus to England, has saved a good portion of her own territory from the grasp of Russia, who, if the *San Stefano* treaty had remained intact, would eventually have taken Constantinople; but Lord Beaconsfield has by his wisdom prevented all this and has preserved England's honour.

## PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

HINDU RANJIKI,  
August 7th, 1878.

2. Referring to the contemplated removal of the Commissioner's office from *Jalpigoree*, the *Hindu Ranjika* recommends *Rámpore Beaulah* as accessible both by river and the North-Eastern Railway. By means of this railway people from *Rangpore*, *Dinagpore*, and *Jalpigoree* could easily come into *Rámpore Beaulah*. The place is well known for its salubrity. Sir George Campbell, when on his tour of inspection in 1873, was applied to in regard to this matter; but he refused to make the transfer, on the ground that the Commissioner's office had been permanently located at *Murshidábád*, and it would not be right to remove it. But now, as new buildings have to be erected, *Rámpore Beaulah* should be selected. The office was here originally, and as the division bears the name of the zillah *Rájsháhye*, this is an additional reason why the seat of the local administration should be in the chief town of the *Rájsháhye* zillah. The Commissioner is frequently at Darjeeling. This is inconvenient for suitors, and the present is a suitable opportunity for giving the people relief from the harassments and cost connected with journeys to the hills.

HINDU RANJIKI.

3. The same paper says that the discussion that has been provoked by the Press Act has brought out the fact that many thinking people are on the side of the Native Press. Act IX is declared to have sealed the fountain of native thought, and closed up the channel for the expression of native loyalty. Our rulers have deprived themselves of the means of becoming acquainted with the actual state of the country.

BHARAT MIHIR,  
August 8th, 1878.

4. The *Bhárat Mihir* thinks that, although Mr. Gladstone's motion anent the Press Act was defeated, the enactment of Act IX has shown Parliament that the India Government has renounced its former high-principled policy and has arrested the progress of the country. The leading English journals in India have opposed the Act: it is only a few low papers that have defended it. The men whose English natures have not succumbed to the enervating Indian climate are lending their aid against the Press Law. We bless the men who are pointing out the wrong that the Government has done. India this day reveres the English, because of the noble-hearted and disinterested men to be found among them. They are the seditious ones who, after obtaining lordship in the country, stain the great name of Englishman.



5. The *Dacca Prakásh*, speaking of the circumstances that led to the enactment of Act IX, says that Lord Lytton is not altogether to blame. He relied

The Press Act.

a great deal on Mr. Eden, who had already passed severe strictures on the Vernacular Press. But was it a proper thing for so high-minded a person as Lord Lytton, even for a single moment to lay the axe at the root of that liberty which the Press had been enjoying for 50 years? He has now alienated the affections of the natives from the British Throne, and instead of profiting by such an act, Government has cast a blot on its own fair name. Its character for justice and generosity has been lowered in the estimation of civilized Europeans, and it has been guilty of partiality in the distinction it has made between the Natives and English. This is the reason why the people are discontented. Lord Lytton urged European complications as an excuse for making the Act; but that difficulty has disappeared and tranquillity reigns. As to the fruits of the agitation, we have to observe that at no time have 182 persons been seen supporting any Indian question in Parliament. When Earl Beaconsfield falls, and the Liberals come into power, our distress will assuredly be removed. This poisonous Act owes its birth to the contaminating climate of India, contact with which has destroyed all the high-mindedness of Sir Ashley Eden and Lord Lytton, and has served to increase the rigor of their rule; but when they quit India and return to England, they will alter their views under English influence. This was the case with Lord Northbrook and Sir George Campbell, who now appear favourable to India. The fact of the matter is that justice must one day prevail.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
August 11th, 1878.

6. A correspondent warns the *Sádháraní* against its disloyal tone.

The *Sádháraní's* defence against charge of disloyalty.

The Editor observes in reply, that it is not to be thought that because in a former issue he had remarked that "great men would not believe in the reports furnished by a native paper," that he was therefore disloyal. The people of Bengal have never wished evil to the British Government, and they never can or will do so; but that is no reason why, in the face of the strictures which are constantly passed on the Vernacular Press in the official papers, Government should be credited with a desire to believe in its writings. Referring next to the sympathy which should subsist between Government and the people, the editor adds: If the interests of the Government and the people are identical, no criticism of public measures should be regarded as reprehensible; for, in criticising the acts of Government, the people do but criticise their own acts. The native papers, it is asserted, have ever done what the correspondent now advises them to do—commented on, and complained of, specific grievances, instead of indulging in vague denunciations of Governmental measures.

SADHARANI,  
August 11th, 1878.

7. The *Som Prakásh*, in an article headed, "How best to make the people loyal?" remarks that the English being foreigners, are always enquiring whether the people of India are loyal. Native Princes

How to make the people of India loyal.

would see no necessity for doing so. What chiefly prompts the enquiry is, that as India is the residence of many races, so we have many masters who are being constantly changed. Their policy changes with the exchange of office; some for instance practice partiality, others detest it. Our rulers are not pure-minded. A person who is of a suspicious turn of mind will suspect others. This is why we are not trusted. They cannot get rid of bias, and hence cannot determine whether we are loyal or not. The Editor quotes from the *Westminster Review* a passage from Mr. Beveridge's Indian History, in which instruction in the Christian religion is put forward as the best means

SOM PRAKASH,  
August 12th, 1878.



SAHACHARA,  
August 12th, 1878.

of making the people loyal, and agrees with the reviewer in thinking that only the administration of justice can lift a people into loyalty.

8. The *Sahachara* of the 12th August, in an article headed "The history of the Press Act," thinks that if Mr. Gladstone's motion had been successful,

not only Lord Lytton, but the Ministry would have had to resign. The latter consequently put forth all their strength on the occasion of this debate: with what result? The Ministry was saved just by a majority of 56 votes. But has England approved of the Press Act? This can never be said. Let Parliament be but dissolved to-day, and to-morrow the Liberals will return to power. Notwithstanding the ovations which the Premier received from the Jingoese on his return from the Berlin Congress, the British nation is gradually, but surely, waking up to the conviction that the true interests of England have been betrayed by him. In spite of the vigorous efforts made by Lord Lytton's Government, it has practically suffered a defeat, for it has not succeeded in proving Native editors to be disloyal. The danger, on the plea of which the previous consent of the Secretary of State was obtained to introduce the Bill, has turned out to be an idle scare; whilst the discussion that was sought to be avoided has come about. Lord Lytton should know that no one possessed of a grain of common sense would desire the downfall of the British Empire. The people of India know well that if the English were to leave India to-day, anarchy would reappear to-morrow; the depredations of the *Bargis* would be re-enacted, and all progress would be arrested. Inasmuch, however, as the British Administration is not yet perfect, we have our grievances; but the mention of these grievances in language occasionally strong, is not a token of disloyalty. It is the outcome of a desire to see the administration improved. The desire to reform is not the same as the desire to destroy. Strong language and differences of opinion are common features of political strife, but they do not constitute sedition.

SANGBAD  
PRABHAKARA,  
August 12th, 1878.

9. The *Sangbad Prabhakara*, commenting on the Municipal Report of 1st August 1876-77, observes that the municipal receipts are for the most part spent on the

police, very little money being given to sanitary measures, or to the improvement of towns and villages. The inference is that Government does not care so much for the health of the people as for the peace of the country. A great many *mafussal* municipalities exist only in name and are made the means of oppressing the people. If the health of the people is no object, at least let the *ghats* and roads be looked after. Again, men take the opportunity of becoming Commissioners to pay off or ruin their enemies. For the above reasons, the majority of villagers are averse to municipal institutions.

BARDWAN SANJIVANI,  
August 13th, 1878.

10. The *Bardwan Sanjivani* going back to the subject of the epidemic fever of the district, thus describes its career: In its first year it prevails more

extensively than the usual rainy weather fever, though not during the same months. In the second year, the fever extends in range and lasts longer, bringing on spleen, &c. In the third year, people become enfeebled by its repeated attacks, and either die or become the victims of sundry diseases stimulated by it, from which they suffer even during the summer months. Although in the fourth year the fever diminishes in violence, yet the slightest pre-disposing cause is liable to bring it on. In the fifth year it abates still more, and in the summer months invalids begin to pick up flesh and strength; the spleen often enlarges, however, and continues some years with occasional attacks of fever. The duration of the fever in each place is uncertain, varying from twelve to six or seven years.



*Bardwan* has been severely afflicted with this fever for the past ten years ; during the first four years the fever was four times as bad as it is now. Now, with the exception of the sufferers from spleen, liver, &c., the people continue in good health and able to go about their work from the month of *Agráhayan* (November) to *Shrávan* (August).

11. The *Sambád Prabhákar* observes that, with all the money expended on the drainage of this town, it cannot believe that any good will come of it from a sanitary point of view. The least rain floods the streets, and often the water enters the houses. The water in subsiding leaves a mud deposit, which is a great nuisance to foot-passengers. The dwellings on the sides of the road are endangered by the drainage ; so that, even if the inhabitants are not inconvenienced by the drainage, the deterioration of landed property must be great. Moreover, the officers of the Municipality, entrusted with the duty of connecting the pipes, are practising great oppression ; an order has been passed by the Municipality that the road, the houses along which are not connected with the main drainage, should not be cleaned ; this has led to a great accumulation of mud and dirt, especially in *Masjid-bári* Street, which in its present state is worse than a village road.

SAMBAD PRABHAKAR,  
August 18th, 1878.

12. Referring to the action of the present Cabinet, in sending the Indian Contingent to *Malta*, the *Bishwa Dút* remarks that the Ministry do not hesitate to exercise authority, but they refuse to accept any responsibility connected with their acts. The entire administration of India being in the hands of Parliament, Parliament is responsible for any harm coming to the people of this country ; but does that body acknowledge or accept this responsibility ? If it does, why was the Press Act so summarily dealt with ? Glad as we were to see so many members opposing Act IX, the lower orders of the people consider that no benefit has resulted from the appeal to Parliament ; and we are grieved at Sir Stafford Northcote's saying that the rescission of the Act would impair the honor of the Government of India. The fear of Parliament, we thought, would keep matters right ; but our high officials have got off scot free. On Sir Stafford Northcote's principles, the circumstances attending the loss of life in the famines of the North-West and Madras must remain uninvestigated. Are our Indian administrators to have any reflection cast on them because of the death of a few poor subjects ? Their credit is to be preferred to the lives of the poor. Where are we to stop if such be the future policy of Parliament ? Our hearts refuse to believe that Parliament has lost all pity and compassion for poor India !

BISHWA DUT,  
August 14th, 1878.

13. The *Grámvartá Prakáshiká* agrees with the *Bishwa Dút* in representing the people as crying out on all sides on account of the lavish expenditure in the administration of the country, to meet which taxes have to be imposed. The dissatisfaction of the people on this account is regarded as disaffection, and this mistake led to the passing of Act IX. All that is desired is that the expenditure should be reduced and the unnecessary taxation withdrawn. Fools only would wish to see the English driven out of India. It would be ruin if they left ; but if they persist in the present extravagant system of administration, it will be ruin if they remain.

GRAMVARTA  
PRAKASHIKA,  
August 14th, 1878.

14. After making voluminous extracts from the Jail Administration Report of 1877, this paper strongly objects to criminals of all classes being indiscriminately herded together ; those convicted of light and venial offences should not be shut up, or be allowed to mix, with thieves, *dacoits*, and hardened criminals.

GRAMVARTA  
PRAKASHIKA.



SAMBAD PRABHAKAR,  
August 14th, 1878.

15. The *Sambád Prabhákar*, feeling no sympathy for the *Puri Rájá*, who has received his deserts, complains that no guardian has yet been appointed to look after the minor son of the *Rájá*, nor has any portion of the family stipend been allowed for the past few months for the support of the different members. The elder *Ráni* had had to defray out of her private funds all the expenses attending the *Rath* festival; the household servants and officers remain unpaid; Hindus alone can conceive the distress of the elder *Ráni*, who, in addition to the sorrow caused by separation from her son, has had her allowance stopped. Every Hindu in India is grieved at the apathy shown by Government in the matter. It does not become the Government to stop the *Ráni's* pension because the son has been transported; such conduct must deeply grieve the Hindu community. We again advise Lord Lytton and Sir Ashley Eden to appoint a Deputy Magistrate to the management of the affairs of the *Ráj* family, or to continue the former allowance. If any matter connected with the temple should suffer, the Hindus will to a man be incensed against the Government.

BISHWA DAT,  
August 14th, 1878.

16. The *Bihwa Dút* observes: Every one admits that the administration of this country could be carried on at a far less cost than at present. What must be the poverty of the people who, with a sufficiency of food lying before them, are dying of hunger for want of the money to secure that food? The army absorbs about one-third of the revenue; treble the number of barracks have been built since the mutiny than existed before, and all these are lying unused. The cost to India of a European soldier of infantry is twice as much as what it was in the time of the East India Company, whilst that of a cavalry recruit is three times as much though the means of transit are much easier; the short terms of service, too, have added to the army expenditure. No reasons have been assigned for saddling us with this extra expenditure. Our Indian Councillors can impose taxes when they want money but they will not close the door to additional or lavish expenditure, and thereby increase the real glory of England, and keep her subjects in ease and tranquillity.

SAMBAD PRABHAKAR,  
August 15th, 1878.

17. Referring to Sir Ashley Eden's various public Speeches, *Darbárs* Sir Ashley Eden and the Calcutta Municipality. and Acts, the *Sambád Prabhákaru* prognosticates that the Lieutenant-Governor will some day have an Act passed at one sitting, cancelling the elective municipal system, on the ground of there being danger in it to the Empire; for he has clearly said that the Editors of Native Newspapers are fools and low people, not fit to have the right of representing others, and that the present Commissioners merely wish to display their powers of oratory at meetings. As to Europeans not being in the Commission, it is their own fault, for the natives besought them to stand and promised to see them elected. Sir Ashley Eden wants *ap-ka-wásté* Commissioners, but the tax-payers prefer independent election; he thunders at the system, without showing any fault in it; there is no evidence that the elected Commissioners are unworthy men. Sir Ashley Eden has fallen into the same error about the municipality as he did in connection with the Native Newspapers; no one will be grieved if he adopts some means of getting more Europeans to sit on the Commission, though all must feel hurt when he launches forth against the elective system without any real evidence to produce.

#### EDUCATION.

SADHARANI,  
August 11th, 1878.

18. Adverting to the system of divided responsibility that has so long prevailed in the Education Department, the *Sádháraní* is pleased that the subject has



received the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor, and drawn from him a resolution in which the powers and responsibilities of the several educational authorities are clearly defined. The Editor, however, fears that His Honor's efforts will not be successful. He regrets that District Committees are not able as heretofore to control the selection of text-books.

19. The *Dacca Prakásh* approves of the recent resolution, but thinks that, so long as teachers draw such small salaries as Rs. 15 and Rs. 20 in these hard times, the middle and lower classes of schools, and ultimately the higher, will suffer. Sub-Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors are not required. Let the money spent on them go to increase the salaries of underpaid teachers.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
August 11th, 1878.

20. The *Som Prakásh* attributes the mental and physical deterioration of his countrymen, not to climate, or to the fact of their being a subject race, but to the practice of child-marriages. He is surprised at the opposition which Mr. Garrett's proposal has excited. Surely, he argues, any youth may marry after passing the examination, as 15 years is not the limit of age allowed for marriage. *Manu* laid down 36 years for the *Brahmacháryas*. Mr. Garrett's proposal is not opposed to the *Shástras*; it is rather in accord with them, and must, if adopted, tend to the national elevation. Europeans are strong, energetic, and learned, because they marry at a late age. Marriage is not intended to satisfy lust, but to beget children. The former *Rájás* married solely for the latter purpose, and that is why their race was so renowned for heroism. Early marriages result in offspring that are weak and worthless.

SOM PRAKASH,  
August 12th, 1878.

#### FAMINE.

21. The *Hasanpur* correspondent of the *Bhárat Mihir* represents the state of the peasants on the *chars* as deplorable: avarice induced them to take to jute cultivation, and now they have no store of paddy. All hope of the *ashu* crop is gone, the paddy fields being five or six cubits under water. The water has also entered the dwellings of the peasants and rendered their distress complete.

BHARAT MIHIR,  
August 8th, 1878.

22. In its column of news, this paper states that coarse rice is to be had in *Rampore Bauleah* at 14½ or 15 seers for the rupee; there were 100 maunds of rice exported from here to *Gazipur* in July last, and not much imported. Accounts from *Serájganj* describe the place as in a deplorable state on account of the rain; the fields are under water, and the houses have been destroyed; the *ashu* crop is destroyed, and there is no hope for the *aman*. In *Rangpur* there have been heavy rains and floods, which have caused much ruin. New *aus* rice is selling at Rs. 4 or Rs. 4-8.

HINDU RAJJIKA,  
August 7th, 1878.

23. A correspondent writing to this paper from *Purneah*, states that rice is selling there as before at 7 and 8 seers. There is a clear bright sky and great heat. Fever, which used to be prevalent here in the months of *Ashvin* and *Kártik* (September and October), has appeared this time in the month of *Shravan* (July and August).

BHARAT  
SANSKARAK,  
August 9th, 1878.

24. *Akshaya Kumár Chatterji*, a correspondent writing to the *Murshid-ábád Patriká* from *Ulyapara Salap*, complains of the distress in that place; the *aman*, *aus*, and *jute* crops being under water, the people are unable to meet the Government taxes; peasants' houses are full of water, and the cattle are perishing from starvation; no person will receive them as a gift, so dire is the distress on account of the flood. Rice which was selling at 6 and 7

MURSHIDABAD  
PATRIKA,  
August 9th, 1878.



seers in the month of *Ashár*, is only to be had at one and two seers, and that with difficulty. Rain is still falling heavily.

SADHARANI,  
August 11th, 1878.

25. The *Sádháraní* breaks out into the following lament:—India wears a gloomy appearance; she has not her former pleasing and mirthful look. She is

India's deplorable state.

covered with gross darkness; complaints are pouring in from all sides of famines. We wonder that such should be the case, considering that this country has always been noted for the fertility of its soil. The miseries of the people are due in great measure to faults in administration; our rulers only look for money; justice is sold; foreigners are appointed to the public service, and a large European army needs to be maintained; and thus the wealth of the land is departing and there is scarcity of food.

BEARAT MIHIR,  
August 8th, 1878.

26. The *Pinganá* correspondent of this paper says that, whilst the people are already suffering from famine and want of food, their houses have been

State of Pinganá.

invaded by water, and they are obliged to sleep on elevated platforms. The cattle threaten to die from starvation. No prospect of paddy except on the high lands. The water in the last week of *Asharh* drowned the *ashu* rice.

#### LOCAL.

BEARAT MIHIR.

27. Referring to Mr. Pawsey's recommendation to the Commissioner,

Maulvie Mahammad Israel, Deputy Magistrate of Kishorganj.

that *Maulvie Mahammad Israel*, Deputy Magistrate of *Kishorganj*, should be kept there some time longer on trial, the *Sádháraní* complains that this Muhammadan gentleman, though not of a bad disposition, is ill-behaved and rude. He does not keep within the limits of law, and he is not likely to improve by staying in this court.

BEARAT MIHIR.

28. A correspondent writing to this paper from *Jámálpore*, complains

Postal arrangements and state of Jamalpore.

of the delay in the receipt of post letters, owing to the circuitous route by which the mail travels; he recommends that the *Rangpore* line should cross at the *Káliganj Ghát*, go by *Báhdurdábád* and then straight on to *Déwanganj*. By this arrangement the public would be benefited and the work of the Post Office expedited. People here are in great distress owing to famine, sickness, and excessive rain.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,  
August 9th, 1878.

29. *Dújéndranáth Bhattácharjya*, a correspondent writing to this

A road needed from *Méré* to *Sangrámpur*, in zillah Hooghly.

paper from *Sangrámpur*, urges the construction of a road, be it even a *catchá* one, from the village of *Méré* to *Sangrámpur*, a distance of a mile, in the district of Hooghly.

HINDU HITAIISHINI,  
August 10th, 1878.

30. The *Jámukí* correspondent of the *Hindu Hitaishini* describes the

State of Jámukí.

water in the place to be rising so rapidly that it is expected that men and cattle will be floating about in a few days. The *ashu* crop is lost; famine is increasing; there is great irregularity in the delivery of the mails on account of boats not being used, although the place is covered with water. No attempts are being made to put a stop to the dacoities and thefts taking place here; there are one or two useless *chaukidárs*. The zemindars have to employ their own men.

BARDWAN SANJIVANI,  
August 13th, 1878.

31. The *Bardwán Sanjivani* objects to the great outlay for roads,

Complaints against the proceedings of the Road Cess Committee of Burdwán.

&c., recommended from the Road Cess Funds of the ensuing year. The times are hard, and complaints are pouring in from all sides as to the scarcity of food. Is this act of Mr. Larminie consonant



with the state of the times? We can but call it a merciless proceeding. Out of 14 members present there was only one, viz. *Munshi Izzat Hosein*, who had the courage to object to so great an expenditure at a time when the peasants were so badly off. The Magistrate's proposition, however, was carried; he alleging that the highest rate should be levied, as many roads needed to be repaired. Now, the expenditure of the past year will show that when the rate was  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pice to the rupee, there was a balance after all the year's work had been done. Had the Magistrate made previous enquiries, he would have found that there was no peasant willing to pay a high rate in these hard times for the purpose of new roads. The Editor does not approve of the Committee's dismissal of sub-overseer Mr. Alexander, who had been well reported of during the past year, and objects to Mr. Stoney, who has read at no college, being kept on, against the desire of Government, in charge of such a large zillah as this. The pay of overseer *Bábu Vidu Shekar* has been very properly increased, for he studied and was trained at the Civil Engineering College; his only fault is that he is a Bengali.

32. The *Rániganj* correspondent of this paper says that several people in *Assensole* have died of cholera. Accounts from Rániganj. Rain has been falling continuously, and cultivation is going on well, so that there is no fear now. BARDWAN SANJIVANI,  
August 13th, 1878.

33. A correspondent writing to this paper, complains of the great inconvenience to which people, and especially women, are subjected in connection with the ferry over the Damodar river. People have to wade up to their knees in water before they can get into the boat. Difficulty in crossing the Damodar by the ferry. BARDWAN SANJIVANI.

34. A correspondent of the *Grámvártá Prakáshiká* complains that a village called *Mahámáyá*, in the sub-division of *Jhenidah*, zillah *Jessore*, is left entirely unprovided with water. It has no stream, or rivulet, or reservoir. It once had a small canal, which silted up five or seven years ago. The people have to depend entirely on the rains to water the soil. There is a large tank in the place, which was excavated by the *Mitra Bábus*, but which is now choked up. This the inhabitants of the village pray that the Government will have cleaned. Scarcity of water in Mahámáyá, zillah Jessore. GRAMVARTA  
PRAKASHIKA,  
August 14th, 1878.

35. A correspondent of this paper writes, complaining of the bad state of the roads, of the drainage, and of the one municipal public tank in *Comercolly*, and all this notwithstanding the taxes collected to keep these in proper order. Complaints against the municipality of Comercolly. GRAMVARTA  
PRAKASHIKA.

36. An anonymous correspondent, writing from *Naddiá*, complains of inconvenience to suitors and hindrance to business, resulting from the distance by which the civil and criminal courts are separated from one another. The courts are about two miles apart; the Judges are so strict that, if the parties are not present when a case is called on, it is at once struck off. The great increase in sessions work has caused a large accumulation of civil cases, and to cope with this work there are only a *Munsif* and a *Subordinate Judge*. Hindrance to business in the Krish-nagar Courts. BISHWA DUT,  
August 14th, 1878.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

37. A correspondent from *Cattack* sends to the *Sádháraní* an account of an entertainment given by Mr. Beadon, the Magistrate, on the 2nd ultimo, to the European and Native residents of the station. Mr. Smith, the Commissioner, was present. The party, which was a very pleasant one, broke up at midnight; the guests were delighted at the courtesy and sincerity of Entertainment given by Mr. Beadon, the Magistrate of Cattack. SADHARANI,  
August 11th, 1878.



Mr. Beadon. The correspondent remarks that this is the first time he has seen this mixing with natives of the country on a common and equal footing. He has never before met a gentleman like Mr. Beadon, so full of sincerity and so free from the least pride.

SOM PRAKASH,  
August 12th, 1878.

38. Writing of the recent trial of *Upendralál Básu* for adultery, and the great excitement it has created amongst the Hindu community both in town and village, the Editor of this paper says that he did not intend to defile the pages of the *Som Prakásh* with the particulars of this disgusting case, but that he is compelled to do so to satisfy the curiosity of his readers. The circumstances of the case indicate a new feature in Hindu society. *Bábus Ishwarchandra Mitra*, *Upéndralál Básu*, and *Jogéndranáth Básu* are men of knowledge and education and judgment. Who would have dreamt that they would be mixed up in so abominable an affair? What astonishment or grief could be greater than that of seeing persons, to whom it belonged to judge and punish crime, implicated in so disgusting an affair. In our opinion *Ishwar Bábu* is most to blame. *Kshétramaní* was his daughter. His neglect to look after her and his apathy have produced the present distressing result. *Jogéndrá Bábu*, his son-in-law, left his wife to the care of *Ishwar Bábu*. A person to whom even cattle are entrusted is bound to look after them. If he uses them for his own purposes, he may afterwards make them good by substituting other animals, but even then his conduct is reprehensible. But here *Kshétramaní* was *Ishwar Bábu*'s own daughter, left to his care by his son-in-law. A person comes and takes her away, but *Ishwar Bábu* makes no enquiry. His daughter became guilty of adultery, but he gave no heed to the matter. We have tried to find out the reason for this apathy, but we have failed. At one time we were inclined to think that he was led away by some mistaken notion concerning English education and independence. Possibly he thought that he could not interfere with the actions of his daughter, who had attained full age and maturity, and that she could do as she liked. If he did think this, then clearly he may have learned English, but he has got no good from it. English is not so unsubstantial a thing, that its teachings should be unsubstantial. English requires that the right to independence of those only should be recognized who are able to make a right use of their knowledge and protect their own characters; it does not require that independence should be allowed to those in whom this power has not developed. Did *Ishwar Bábu* know that his daughter was able to take care of her own character? At least it does not appear so from his deposition. It is clear that he knew of his daughter's wrongdoing. It may be urged that he got angry the moment he heard of her conduct and that he disdained her; but this is not likely. Why did he not write and tell his son-in-law of it? This is what he ought to have done, and the son-in-law would have acted as he thought proper. *Ishwar Bábu* did no such thing; on the contrary, he refused to let his daughter go when his son-in-law came to take her. Why was this case allowed to be dragged into Court? It would have been better had both parties settled it privately. Let *Ishwar Bábu* think what he chooses, people look upon him as a wicked and worthless man, and liken him to a bullock carrying a load of sugar; he has read heaps of books, but he has profited nothing.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 17th August 1878.

ROBERT ROBINSON,

Offg. Government Bengali Translator.